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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/654,926	09/05/2003	Hiroshi Mori	031062	5473
38834 7590 08/05/2010 WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP 1250 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, NW SUITE 700 WASHINGTON, DC 20036				
EXAMINER				
BENOTT, ESTHER				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2442				
NOTIFICATION DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
08/05/2010		ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

patentmail@whda.com

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/654,926

Applicant(s)

MORI ET AL.

Examiner

ESTHER BENOIT

Art Unit

2442

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 June 2010.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/22)
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This Action is in response to a Request for Continued Examination filed on June 3, 2010. Claims 1-10 have been amended. Claims 11-12 are newly added. Claims 1 and 3-12 are pending in this application.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments, see Remarks, filed 6/3/2010, have been fully considered. Some arguments are persuasive and some are not. The arguments that are not persuasive are addressed below. Furthermore, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Keys et al. (US 2001/0050681 A1), and Hauhia et al. (US 7,058,542 B2).

Arguments under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Arguments to Claim 1:

a) The prior art Gretta does not suggest "definition files to define the way data of field devices are displayed".

Response to arguments of Claim 1:

As to point a, the argument has been considered but is not persuasive. The claim limitation recites "create definition files that define the way the data of said field devices is displayed" the examiner reviewed the prior art Gretta further and contends Gretta teaches templates that are used to display configurations of field devices. The

configuration templates define how the information regarding the field device connections will be presented. There can be provided more than one template for a user to choose from, indicating that each template can define a different presentation of field device connections. The user is also capable of changing some aspects of the configuration (how the connections are presented) template (Col. 10, lines 46-58 and Col. 16, lines 26-40, *a fieldbus configuration template is used to display configuration information pre-wired or the user can use the template and change the configuration information in the template a desired preference*)

As to any claims not specifically discussed, the applicants argued that it was patentable for one of the reasons discussed above. Please see response to above arguments for unspecified discussions.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1 and 3-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gretta, Jr. (6,076,952), hereinafter Gretta, in view of Keys et al. (US 2001/0050681 A1), and further in view of Hauhia et al. (US 7,058,542 B2).

Gretta discloses:

- a display device for displaying said generated display data on a personal computer on a network (Figure 1 and Col. 10, lines 21-28, *14, display device*)
- wherein definition files (*templates*) are provided on a field device basis and define the way the data of said field devices is displayed (Col. 10, lines 46-58 and Col. 16, lines 26-40, *a fieldbus configuration template is used to display configuration information pre-wired or the user can use the template and change the configuration information in the template a desired preference*)
- the definition files (*templates*) sections can include information displayed as parameters that represent a hardware status (Col. 4, lines 38-48 and Col. 10, lines 46-58) and mandatory configurations of said field devices (Col. 15, lines 44-55, *invalid inputs and outputs (changes) will produce wiring errors, but valid changes will be highlighted as a valid connection*)

Gretta does not explicitly disclose:

- a description device for writing data read by a data acquisition device to definition files according to a predetermined format to create the definition files;
- a generation device for interpreting said definition files wherein data is written to generate display data;
- and wherein said definition file sections defines the way information are displayed.

However, Keys discloses:

a description device (*server computer system*) for writing data read by said data acquisition device (*user end*) to definition files (*template/presentation file*) according to a predetermined format to create definition files ([0027], *server computer receives information from user to create a presentation file that will describe the way the information is to be presented*);

a generation device (*generator*) for interpreting said definition files wherein data is written to generate display data ([0038], *presentation generator to create a final formatted multimedia for presenting*);

and wherein said definition files comprise sections which defines a way information (*parameters, status, etc.*) are displayed ([0027], [0037], [0040], and [0042], *different option views using templates with different portions for mixing and matching various image components*);

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Gretta to incorporate the teachings of Keys to provide the description device for writing data read by said data acquisition device to definition files and sections which defines a way information, *because* it will allow for easier generation of the definition files using the device.

Gretta and Keys do not explicitly disclose a field control station which includes a data acquisition device for reading data from field devices connected to a fieldbus;

However, Hauhia discloses:

a field control station (*field control unit*) which includes a data acquisition device (*receiver for receiving diagnostics data*) for reading data from field devices connected to a fieldbus (Abstract);

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Gretta and Keys to incorporate the teachings of Hauhia to provide a data acquisition device for reading data from field devices connected to a fieldbus is enclosed in a field control station, *because* the field control station performs the control function of a distributed control system and can also run a process for cascade connection to the fieldbus and interface field devices with an information and command station.

With respect to claim 9, the claim's limitations are similar to claim 1. Therefore, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claim 1 above.

With respect to claims 3 and 4, Gretta discloses the display device displays the diagnostic parameters of said field devices and the statuses (Col. 4, lines 38-48) and creating definition files to define the way data of field devices are displayed (Col. 10, lines 46-58 and Col. 16, lines 26-40, *a fieldbus configuration template is used to display configuration information pre-wired or the user can use the template and change the configuration information in the template a desired preference*)

With respect to claim 5, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claims 3 and 4. in addition, Gretta discloses said display device displays alarms present in said field devices (Col. 34, lines 44-50)

With respect to claim 6, Gretta discloses the display device has an area for setting an update interval at which said data acquisition device reads data from said field devices and said data acquisition device reads data from said field devices at said update interval set in said update interval setting area (Col. 34, lines 15-21)

With respect to claim 7, Gretta discloses the update interval setting area is provided with a refresh button that allows said data acquisition device to read data from said field devices at a desired point in time, and said data acquisition device reads data from said field devices at said desired point in time set using said refresh button (Col. 23, line 60)

With respect to claim 8, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claim 1 above.

With respect to claim 10, Gretta discloses data acquisition unit acquires alarm information from said field devices (Col. 4, lines 38-48)

With respect to claims 11-12, the claims are rejected for the same reasons as claim 1 and 9 above. In addition, Gretta discloses optional configurations (Col. 10, lines 19-28, *optionally change tags and blocks*) additional information is displayed (Col. 14, lines 18-19, *additional information writing to the screen*).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Esther Benoit whose telephone number is 571-270-3807. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday between 7:30 a.m and 5 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Asad M. Nawaz can be reached on 571-272-3988. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

E.B.
July 28, 2010

/Asad M Nawaz/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2442